

## Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 L-03

DRC-01 /116 W

----- 095234

R 171107Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3249

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

DIA WASHDC

CINCEUR VIAHINGEN GERMANY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACCRA 2117

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINS GH

SUBJ: NRC COMMUTES DEATH SENTENCES OF COUP PLOTTERS TO  
LIFE IMPRISONMENT

REF: ACCRA 249

1. CONFIRMING REPORTS CIRCULATING IN ACCRA FOR PAST TWO MONTHS, NRC ANNOUNCED APRIL 16 THAT IT HAD COMMUTED DEATH SENTENCES OF CONVICTED COUP PLOTTERS KOJO BOTSIO, JOHN TETTEGAH, ALHAJI IMORU AYARNA AND ALEX HAMAH TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. WITH THIS ACTION, THE PERPETRATORS OF LAST YEAR'S CPP-TINGED COUP PLOT JOIN THEIR 1972 PP COMPATRIOTS IN SERVING LIFE TERMS.

2. DECISION COMMUTE DEATH SENTENCES, WHILE UNPOPULAR AMONG SOME ELEMENTS OF MILITARY, WILL BE WELCOMED BY MAJORITY OF GHANAIS. TOO, SHOULD ACHEAMPONG DECIDE TO CIVILIANIZE HIS GOVERNMENT, COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES WILL STAND HIM IN GOOD STEAD IN EFFORTS ENLIST THE REQUIRED CIVILIAN SUPPORT FOR  
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SUCH A MOVE.

HADSEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, PENAL SYSTEM, POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ACCRA02117  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740089-0227  
**From:** ACCRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740438/aaaabhqn.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** ACCRA 249  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <07-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NRC COMMUTES DEATH SENTENCES OF COUP PLOTTERS TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT  
**TAGS:** PINS, GH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005